

THE CHAMPION

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EDITOR'S OUTING

WHERE THEY WENT, WHAT THEY SAW, ETC.

ASHEVILLE AND BILTMORE.

From Mt. Toxaway, of 5000 feet above sea level, to Toxaway Inn, 100 feet, is quite a descent, and to Hendersonville the grade is sharply downward, for Hendersonville claims an altitude of 2200 feet. Down hill as we go from Toxaway to Hendersonville the descent is even more decided to Asheville, an hour's trip by the Northern Railway to this beautiful renowned city. Asheville is among the mountains, but not at an altitude considerably over than Hendersonville. We are forgotten just what she is, but are sure that one may find here quite a variety of altitudes as many of the homes and a number of the best hotels are reached on hills that require considerable resolution to climb. We landed in Asheville, as we did in Toxaway, in the midst of a summer shower, and therefore saw nothing of the latter part of the scenery or the city except by the street lights on our way by street car to our hotel. The Asheville hotel, by the way, is not a very attractive entrance to so beautiful a city, and a better acquaintance would not impress us at all favorably. It is not even near the city, being at least two miles from the main business streets. There are two street car lines, however, and one can gain a glimpse of some of Asheville's charms by taking each if one can spare the time. Our editorial party had dwindled at this time to such a small force that we decided for the credit of the state we represented to refrain from badges or any effort to make ourselves conspicuous, so we arrived without ceremony. The City Board of Trade on the next morning, however, learning that some Florida editors were in the city sent a couple of their members to meet us, and to take us in a special car to see the city. We enjoyed this trip immensely. Our car was marked special and carried no other passengers except on request, for we were joined by two former Floridians who are now in Asheville for health, one whose name I have forgotten, having been here for a number of years and having recovered from presumptive tendencies is now in business in the city and looked the personification of good, robust health. He knew some of our history. The other Floridian who joined us was Hardy Croom, son of our state comptroller, who is now at the sanitarium for tuberculosis. Whether the climate will cure him yet remains to be seen. We saw the sanitarium, in our street car ride, and thought what a pity that one had to be sick to enjoy the delights of the place that is a lovely location among trees and shrubs, on the street car line, and seems in every way an ideal place to live in. Asheville is a city claiming 10,000 inhabitants, and they are mostly live ones as the middle and stable on the business streets indicate. The tourist and health-seeking population is evidently a factor of great importance here. The city abounds in natural

charms, and her citizens are progressive and public spirited to a great degree. No doubt to this fact they owe much of the prosperity and growth of the city. The fact that a Vanderbilt should locate here is in itself a very great advertisement.

Have you been to Biltmore? To go to Asheville and fail to see this splendid estate, would be a great mistake for it is said to be the finest, with possibly one England exception, in the world. Distinction enough, surely, to satisfy even a multimillionaire. One line of the Asheville street cars has its terminus at Biltmore. But the Biltmore one sees there is not the part of the estate one goes to see. It belongs to Biltmore and consists of a little village neat, shady, with grassy lawns, a picturesque Episcopal church, some pretty cottages, a number of small stores and a blacksmith shop. Also a depot of the Southern Railway that conforms in the architectural lines, etc. with the rest of the village.

The entrance to the grounds of Biltmore estate is by a gateway tended by a dignified gentleman who collects fare for carriage and occupants at the rate of 10 cents each. We had previously hired a three seated carriage, with driver, at Asheville, at a cost of about 75 cents each for the trip, which the driver said, was a fifteen-mile one. But of this at least four miles was through Asheville streets, going and coming, for Biltmore is two miles or more from the business part of Asheville.

The fine carriage driveway of this magnificent estate is smooth as a floor, neat macadam, kept in perfect repair by continual attention, and traverses wooded lands rolling and picturesque. Even the roadside growth of shrubs and flowers shows the hand of the gardener, for all noxious or unsightly weeds are removed and new and attractive plants inserted. One comes unexpectedly upon a portion of a Mississippi cane brake, in close proximity to the mountain fir, and always so natural is the tangle of growth and vines that you forget that in the adornment of this great estate the most beautiful treasures of the forest world are gathered to help beautify it. This property consists of about 200,000 acres. Through it runs the French Broad river, and various smaller streams. Somewhere in the middle of the estate lives an old colored man and his family. For a good many years they have owned the small bit of land on which they live and raise garden truck. When Mr. Vanderbilt wanted to buy the negro's place he would not sell although offered enough to make the negro and his family independent. He thought he could get double the money if he held on, and so he raised the price and staid! Now we understand he would sell but Mr. Vanderbilt won't even give him the price first offered, and he is really lonesome and cut off from his kind for on the large estate are to be seen very few buildings. The cottage in which the Vanderbilts lived while the new home was in construction, stands and in a very good state of preservation, but did not seem to be occupied. Aside from it the only other building we saw, except the castle, was the greenhouses, some distance away, and the dairy

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OUR NEIGHBORS

INTERESTING NEWS OF NEARBY COMMUNITIES.

Castalia Items.

Sweet potato planting has slackened. At present fodder pulling is the order of the times.

A. Roberts used five hands one day in saving his crop, other parties using from one to three. This work is very unfavorable owing to the excessive rain falls.

A herd of cattle owned by Prof. J. H. Brown were driven through this community a few days since enroute from a pasture in DeSoto county which had been cut to another he was fortunate enough to own in Manatee county.

We suppose that it is very embarrassing to Miss May Murphey and F. S. Harrison to receive some very unexpected congratulations so long before the appointed time, July 12, 1906.

J. W. McLeod with energy is rearing a new dwelling on his premises which adds much to his home.

The over thorough going Miss Ida Duncan being deprived of her cropper, Preston Garret, who is in Georgia on a visit walked in to her fodder field and did her own housing and was out at Lily last Sunday with a fifty cent smile.

J. J. Stephens and family were among the hearers of the Rev. Owens, the Methodist minister of Lily, Sunday.

Willie Stephens, jr., from Riley, spent the night with Z. T. Duncan Sunday enroute to Bunker on business.

B. M. Stephens and family, of Miakka head, spent the day Sunday among relatives in this community.

Mrs. S. A. Stephens with family are contemplating attending church at Riley next Sunday.

Lucion Dupree is up at his daughter's, Mrs. Marion Anderson's, and is very sick, and we are informed not likely to recover, with marsh or water poison.

Messrs Willie and Henry Taylor were driving cattle to the Brown Pasture today as was also a crew of men gathering beef cattle. July 11, 1906. LITTLE BIT.

Bible Diet.

We are to see what the Bible teaches about some common everyday affairs. So, as with most of us, something to eat comes to the front almost every day. We will see what we can find about eating. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." 1st Cor. 10:31. So it is possible to eat and drink to the glory of God.

"Blessed art thou O land when thy king is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season, for strength, and not for drunkenness." Eccl. 10:17. In these days there is a disposition to apply all Bible teaching on temperance to the use of intoxicating liquors. This, I think, is a mistake. Gluttony is just as much a sin as drunkenness and when I eat simply because a thing tastes good and not because I need it I am doing just what the drunkard does when he takes his dram. It is that he may feel good. Then I can eat

my way into the kingdom of Heaven is the thought that comes to the surface, not at all, but you can eat your way out of the kingdom of Heaven.

The Bible diet you will find in the first chapter of Genesis 29th verse "And God said, Behold I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat" or for food in the 30th verse is given the food for animals birds etc. and in the 31st verse is this statement "And God saw everything he had made, and, behold, it was very good." Now put the 29th verse in more modern language the diet would be fruits grains nuts and vegetables and God says this diet is very good. How many of us believe it. Well but you say God permitted the use of flesh for food. What, live without that nice crisp breakfast bacon? No more nice juicy beef steaks? Can't do it! May as well stop right here! All right, take a rest and get your bearings. We will see about the permission to use flesh foods next week.

IRVING KECK.

The Owl Club.

Mrs. Williford entertained the Owl Club at her beautiful home on Friday evening, July 6. The tables were scattered through the parlor dining room reception hall and veranda. Mrs. Minnie Smith won first lady's prize, a beautiful cut glass olive dish. Messrs Swearingen, Geo. Parker and Smiley Parker had to cut for first prize, Smiley Parker being the lucky winner. A bronze match box and ash tray.

Chocolate and vanilla cream and cake were served and delightful punch was served during the evening.

Registration Books to Open.

The registration books will open at my office in the court house the first Monday in August for the purpose of registering all qualified electors who are not registered and will open three days in each week, Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 9 a. m. 'till 12 and from 2 p. m. until 5.

The books will open in all districts in the county the first Monday in September and will be open two days in each week the days to be designated by the district supervisors. The books will close in all districts in the county the second Saturday in October, according to law. This July 9th, 1906.

HENRY A. ELLIS, Supervisor of Registration for DeSoto county.

The meat investigations by congress have already borne fruit. A law was passed which provides that after October first, all meat sent out by the big concerns in the United States must undergo inspection, by a government official who will put on all meats that are found good the government stamp. Meats bearing such stamp are guaranteed by the government and in case they prove not fit for food the nation will be responsible. Four hundred meat inspectors will be needed and for this job \$1000 per year will be paid, each. To secure this job the applicant must have a year's experience in a slaughter house, must be able to read and write grammatically, and do sums in arithmetic, and undergo a civil service examination.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, REV. H. KEIGWIN STATED SUPPLY

Services next Sunday morning 11 a. m.

Sunday School 10 a. m.

The ice cream festival and entertainment last Tuesday night was well patronized notwithstanding the rain. The gross proceeds amounted to nearly fifty dollars which assures success in painting the church. Thanks are due Miss Ida Green and her helpful band of young ladies who undertook and carried the work through to such success. Also to Mr. Daniels for the use of his new store building and Hal Reed for his vigorous helpfulness in the work. Also to Mr. Lawton for the use of piano and those who assisted so pleasantly in the music, which helped to make the entertainment so attractive.

Sunday night the Union Service will be held in the Presbyterian church and Doctor DePass will preach the sermon.

Railway Accommodations.

The Woman's Club, of Jacksonville, has taken up the matter of better accommodations for the traveling public at railway stations in Florida. They ask the co-operation of all the ladies' organizations in the state in their effort along the following lines:

1. To work, "For better buildings for railroad stations throughout the entire state.
2. "To urge the provision of separate waiting rooms and wash rooms for white and colored people.
3. "For cleanly kept and sanitary buildings.
4. "For well lighted waiting rooms and platforms, at all hours of the night at stations where passenger trains scheduled to arrive."
5. For the beautifying of grounds around the stations and railroad station buildings in the state of Florida."

Moved to Tampa.

The Arcadia Concrete & Construction Co., which was to have moved its plant to this city and entered the Tampa industrial field, under the title of the Morris Concrete & Construction Co., has been absorbed by the Tampa Hard Rock & Plaster Co., one of the foremost building companies of this state.

T. J. Morris, who has been manager of the Arcadia Concrete & Construction Co., and who has been in the city the past few days relative to the removal of his business to Tampa, will be general superintendent of the merged interests.

Tampa is glad to number Mr. Morris once again among her citizenry. He is a man of much enterprise, big of body and of mind.

The merging of the two companies, or rather the absorption of the Arcadia company by the Tampa Hard Rock & Plaster Co. makes the naturally enlarged business the biggest of its kind in the south. The Tribune hopes the enlarged business much success.—Tampa Tribune.